

The Honorable Ricardo S. Martinez

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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**
10 **AT SEATTLE**

11 JONATHAN BERALL, M.D., M.P.H.,

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 VERATHON INC.,

15 Defendant.

CASE NO. 2:21-cv-00944-RSM

16 **STIPULATED**
17 **PROTECTIVE ORDER**

18 1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

19 Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or
20 private information for which special protection may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby
21 stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties
22 acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c). It does not confer blanket
23 protection on all disclosures or responses to discovery, the protection it affords from public
24 disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential
25 treatment under the applicable legal principles, and it does not presumptively entitle parties to file
26 confidential information under seal.

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2. “CONFIDENTIAL” MATERIAL

“Confidential” material may be designated “CONFIDENTIAL,” or for information that the Producing Party deems especially sensitive “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – OUTSIDE COUNSEL’S EYES ONLY,” and shall include, but is not limited to, the following documents and tangible things produced or otherwise exchanged: confidential research and development, financial, technical, and marketing documents; communications with regulatory agencies; any other sensitive trade secret information; and information capable of being utilized for the preparation or prosecution of a patent application dealing with such subject matter.

3. SCOPE

The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only confidential material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from confidential material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of confidential material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal confidential material.

However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover information that is in the public domain or becomes part of the public domain other than as a result of a disclosure by the receiving party in violation of this Order, including through trial. The protections afforded by this Order also cover and will continue to cover information disclosed in breach of the provisions of this order.

4. ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

4.1 Basic Principles. A receiving party may use confidential material that is disclosed or produced by another party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle the above-captioned litigation. Confidential material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this agreement. Confidential material must be stored and maintained by a receiving party at a location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this agreement.

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1 4.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered
2 by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may disclose any
3 confidential material only to:

4 (a) the receiving party’s counsel of record in this action, as well as employees
5 of counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this litigation;

6 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including in house counsel) of the
7 receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation, unless the producing
8 party designates a particular document or material as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – OUTSIDE
9 COUNSEL’S EYES ONLY” (or the substantial equivalent);

10 (c) experts and consultants, including but not limited to mock jurors, to whom
11 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the “Acknowledgment
12 and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

13 (d) the court, court personnel, and court reporters and their staff;

14 (e) copy or imaging services retained by counsel to assist in the duplication of
15 confidential material, provided that counsel for the party retaining the copy or imaging service
16 instructs the service not to disclose any confidential material to third parties and to immediately
17 return all originals and copies of any confidential material;

18 (f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is
19 reasonably necessary and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound”
20 (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the designating party or ordered by the court. Pages of
21 transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal confidential material must
22 be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted
23 under this agreement;

24 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
25 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information.
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1 4.3 Disclosure of and Challenges to Experts or Consultants. A receiving party
2 seeking to provide confidential material to an expert or consultant shall provide the producing
3 party with (i) a current curriculum vitae of the expert or consultant (ii) a list of all other cases in
4 which, during the previous 4 years, the witness testified as an expert at trial or by deposition, (iii)
5 a list of any past consulting relationships in the industry to the extent readily known to the
6 consultant or receiving party, and (iv) a completed and signed copy of Exhibit A.

7 (a) After ten (10) business days, the receiving party may make the
8 requested disclosures to the identified expert or consultant unless the producing party makes a
9 written objection that sets forth in detail all the factual and legal bases for the objection.

10 (b) If a written objection is received, the parties must meet and confer
11 within 7 days to try to resolve the issues raised in the objection. If no agreement is reached, the
12 party objecting to the requested disclosure (i.e., the producing party) must file a motion as provided
13 by Local Civil Rule 7 seeking an appropriate protective order to preserve its objection. The
14 objecting party (i.e., the producing party) bears the burden of proof. If no motion is filed as
15 required above the objection is deemed waived and the receiving party may make the requested
16 disclosures to the identified expert or consultant.

17 4.4 Filing Confidential Material. Before filing confidential material or
18 discussing or referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the
19 designating party, in accordance with Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(A), to determine whether the
20 designating party will remove the confidential designation, whether the document can be redacted,
21 or whether a motion to seal or stipulation and proposed order is warranted. During the meet and
22 confer process, the designating party must identify the basis for sealing the specific confidential
23 information at issue, and the filing party shall include this basis in its motion to seal, along with
24 any objection to sealing the information at issue. Local Civil Rule 5(g) sets forth the procedures
25 that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from
26 the court to file material under seal. A party who seeks to maintain the confidentiality of its

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information must satisfy the requirements of Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(B), even if it is not the party filing the motion to seal. Failure to satisfy this requirement will result in the motion to seal being denied, in accordance with the strong presumption of public access to the Court's files.

5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each party or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate standards. The designating party must designate for protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify, so that other portions of the material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this agreement.

Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to unnecessarily encumber or delay the case development process or to impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) expose the designating party to sanctions.

If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it designated for protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly notify all other parties that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.

5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this agreement (see, *e.g.*, second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, disclosure or discovery material that qualifies for protection under this agreement must be clearly so designated before or when the material is disclosed or produced.

(a) Information in documentary form: (*e.g.*, paper or electronic documents and deposition exhibits, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), the designating party must affix the word "CONFIDENTIAL" or the phrase "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – OUTSIDE COUNSEL'S EYES ONLY" to each page that contains

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1 confidential material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection,
2 the producing party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate
3 markings in the margins).

4 (b) Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial proceedings: the parties
5 and any participating non-parties must identify on the record, during the deposition or other pretrial
6 proceeding, all protected testimony, without prejudice to their right to so designate other testimony
7 after reviewing the transcript. Any party or non-party may, within fifteen days after receiving the
8 transcript of the deposition or other pretrial proceeding, designate portions of the transcript, or
9 exhibits thereto, as confidential. If a party or non-party desires to protect confidential information
10 at trial, the issue should be addressed during the pre-trial conference.

11 (c) Other tangible items: the producing party must affix in a prominent place
12 on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the word
13 “CONFIDENTIAL” or the phrase “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – OUTSIDE COUNSEL’S EYES
14 ONLY.” If only a portion or portions of the information or item warrant protection, the producing
15 party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

16 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to
17 designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating party’s
18 right to secure protection under this agreement for such material. Upon timely correction of a
19 designation, the receiving party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the material is treated
20 in accordance with the provisions of this agreement.

21 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

22 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any party or non-party may challenge a designation of
23 confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a designating party’s confidentiality
24 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic
25 burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a party does not waive its right to
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1 challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the
2 original designation is disclosed.

3 6.2 Meet and Confer. The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute
4 regarding confidential designations without court involvement. Any motion regarding confidential
5 designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion or in a declaration
6 or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer conference with other
7 affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without court action. The certification must list
8 the date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith effort to confer requires a face-
9 to-face meeting or a telephone conference.

10 6.3 Judicial Intervention. If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without court
11 intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under Local
12 Civil Rule 7 (and in compliance with Local Civil Rule 5(g), if applicable). The burden of
13 persuasion in any such motion shall be on the designating party. Frivolous challenges, and those
14 made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on
15 other parties) may expose the challenging party to sanctions. All parties shall continue to maintain
16 the material in question as confidential until the court rules on the challenge.

17 7. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER
18 LITIGATION

19 If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels
20 disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as “CONFIDENTIAL” or
21 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – OUTSIDE COUNSEL’S EYES ONLY” that party must:

22 (a) promptly (and in any event, within 14 days) notify the designating party in
23 writing and include a copy of the subpoena or court order;

24 (b) promptly (and in any event, within 14 days) notify in writing the party who
25 caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered
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1 by the subpoena or order is subject to this agreement. Such notification shall include a copy of this
2 agreement; and

3 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by
4 the designating party whose confidential material may be affected.

5 8. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

6 If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed confidential
7 material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this agreement, the receiving
8 party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of the unauthorized disclosures,
9 (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the protected material, (c) inform the
10 person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this agreement,
11 and (d) request that such person or persons execute the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be
12 Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

13 9. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED
14 MATERIAL

15 When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently
16 produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the
17 receiving parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision
18 is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order or
19 agreement that provides for production without prior privilege review. The parties agree to the
20 entry of a non-waiver order under Fed. R. Evid. 502(d) as set forth herein.

21 10. NON TERMINATION AND RETURN OF DOCUMENTS

22 Within 60 days after the termination of this action, including all appeals, each receiving
23 party in its discretion must either return or destroy all confidential material to the producing party,
24 including all copies, extracts and summaries thereof. Alternatively, the parties may agree upon
25 appropriate methods of destruction.
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Notwithstanding this provision, counsel are entitled to retain one archival copy of all documents filed with the court, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if such materials contain confidential material.

The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in effect until a designating party agrees otherwise in writing or a court orders otherwise.

IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

DATED: September 7, 2021
Attorneys for Plaintiff

DATED: September 7, 2021
Attorneys for Defendant

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PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502(d), the production of any documents in this proceeding shall not, for the purposes of this proceeding or any other federal or state proceeding, constitute a waiver by the producing party of any privilege applicable to those documents, including the attorney-client privilege, attorney work-product protection, or any other privilege or protection recognized by law.

DATED this 20th day of September, 2021.



RICARDO S. MARTINEZ
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of
_____ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of
perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was
issued by the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington on [date] in the
case of Jonathan Berall, v. Verathon Inc., No. 2:21-cv-00944-RSM]. I agree to comply with and
to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge
that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt.
I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject
to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the
provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the
Western District of Washington for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective
Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.

Date: _____

City and State where sworn and signed: _____

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____